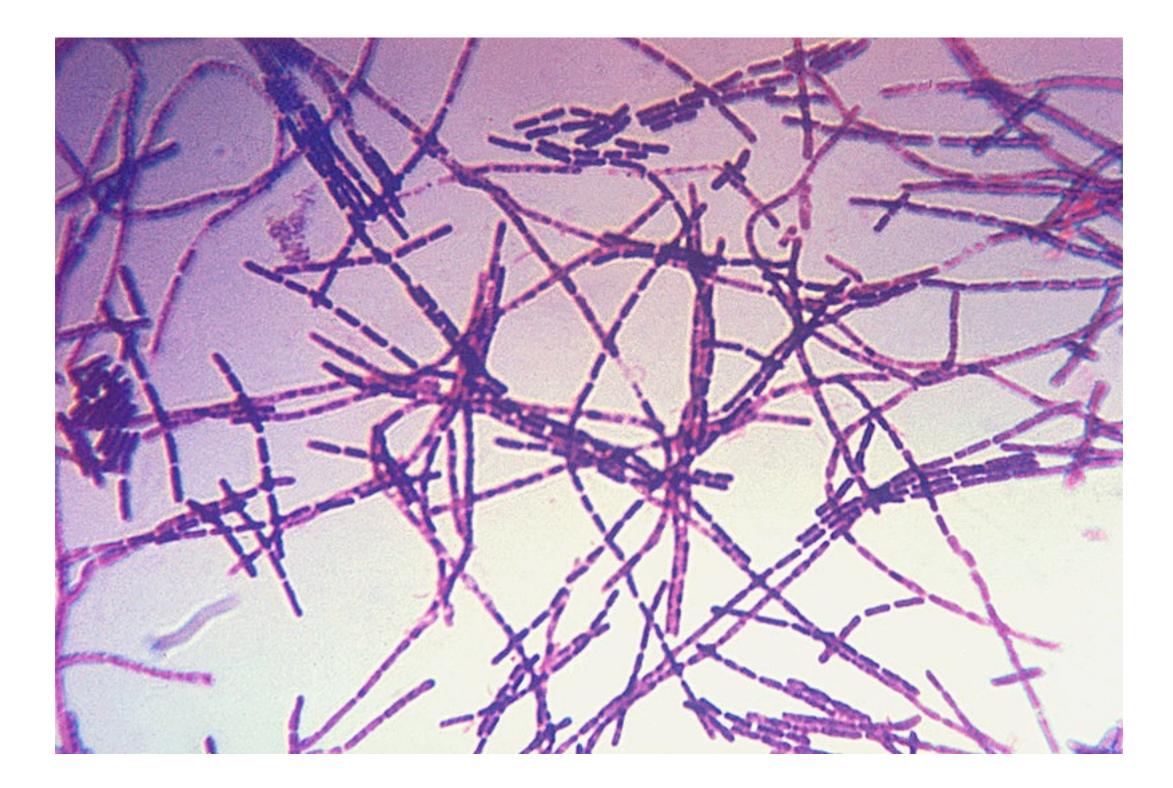
Software Mechanics

Michael Feathers



(what I wish I knew at the beginning of my career)

Software Is Biological



There is no Up or Down in Software



Everything is an Object

I've Got Your "if" Right Here..

boolVal ifTrue:[Transcript show:'true'] ifFalse: [Transcript show:'false']

False>>ifTrue: trueBlock ifFalse: falseBlock ^falseBlock value

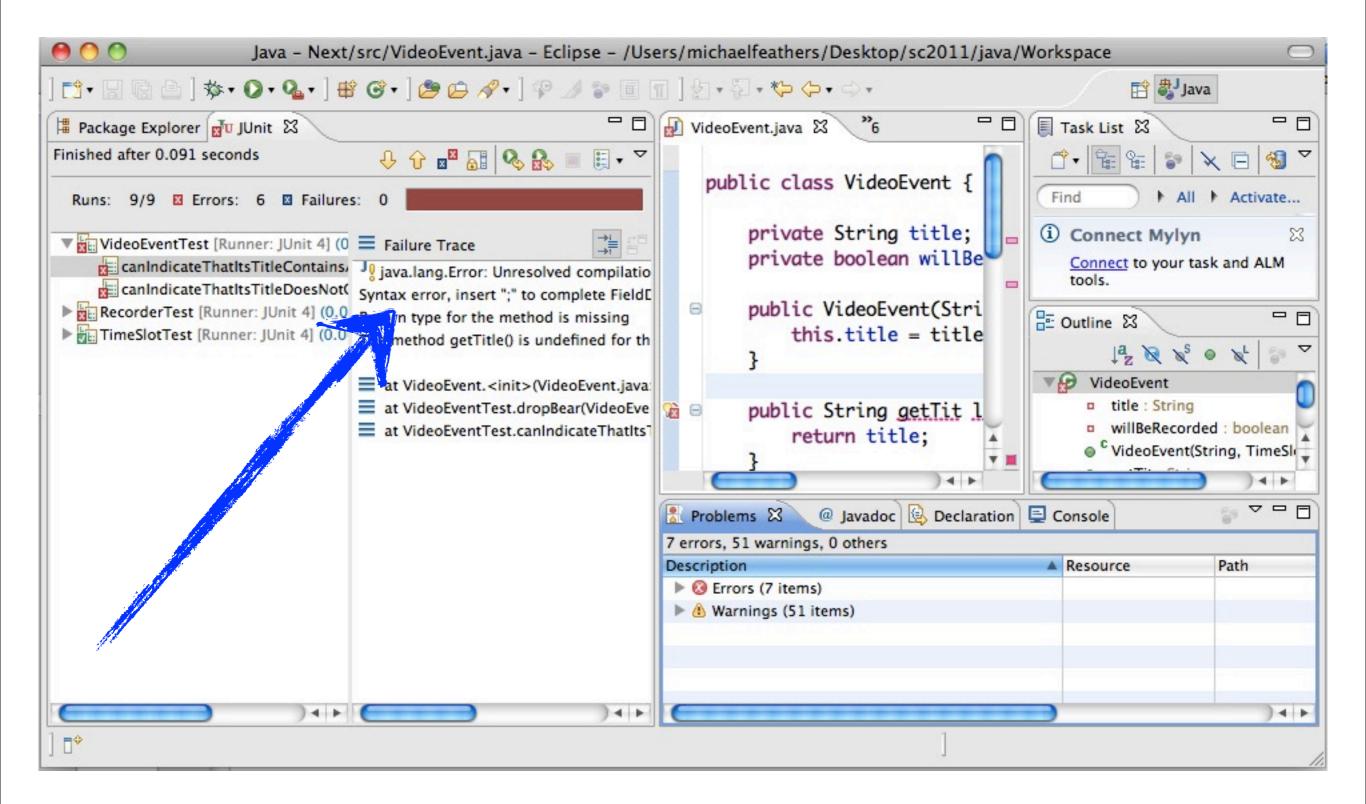
True>>ifTrue: trueBlock ifFalse; falseBlock ^trueBlock value

A Type is a Set of Values

int = { x | $-2,147,483,648 \le x \le +2,147,483,647$ }

interface Port {
 int read();
 boolean checkStatus();
}

Types and Tests are the Same Thing



Sweetness Is Painful



You Can't Make Software Stronger With Redundancy

N-version programming

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

N-version programming (NVP), also known as multiversion programming, is a method or process in software engineering where multiple functionally equivalent programs are independently generated from the same initial specifications.^[1] The concept of *N*-version programming was introduced in 1977 by Liming Chen and Algirdas Avizienis with the central conjecture that the "independence of programming efforts will greatly reduce the probability of identical software faults occurring in two or more versions of the program".^{[1][2]} The aim of NVP is to improve the reliability of software operation by building in fault tolerance or redundancy.^[1]

 Researchers have argued that different programming teams can make similar mistakes.^[4] In 1986, Knight & Leveson conducted an experiment to evaluate the assumption of independence in NVP, they found that the assumption of independence of failures in *N*-version programs failed statistically.^{[4][5][6]}

Protection is a Social Problem Not a Technical Problem

javax.mail Class Session

<u>java.lang.Object</u> __javax.mail.Session

public final class Session extends Object

The Session class represents a mail session and is not subclassed. It collects together properties and defaults used by the mail API's. A single default session can be shared by multiple applications on the desktop. Unshared sessions can also be created.

WARRANTY VOID IF SEAL DAMAGED

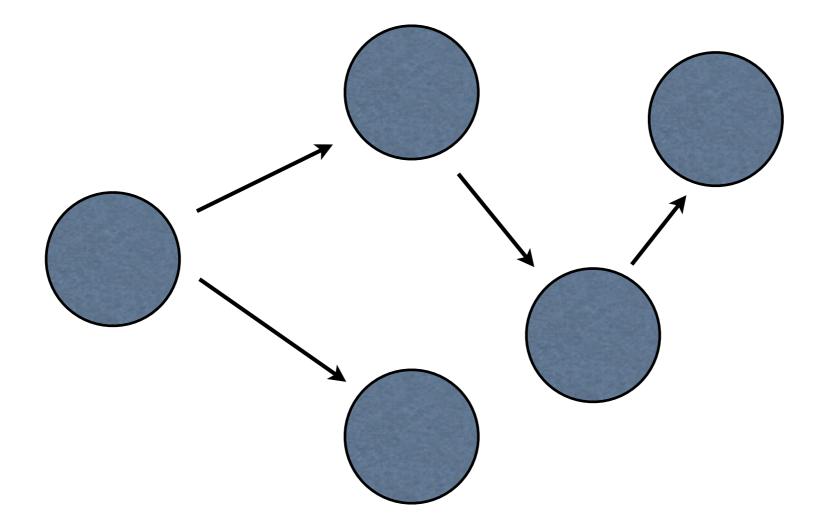
A-12345

COMPANY NAME

There Are No Requirements (It's All Design)



Names Come After Structure



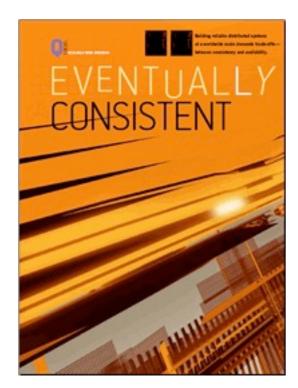


The Physical Shapes The Logical

MapReduce

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

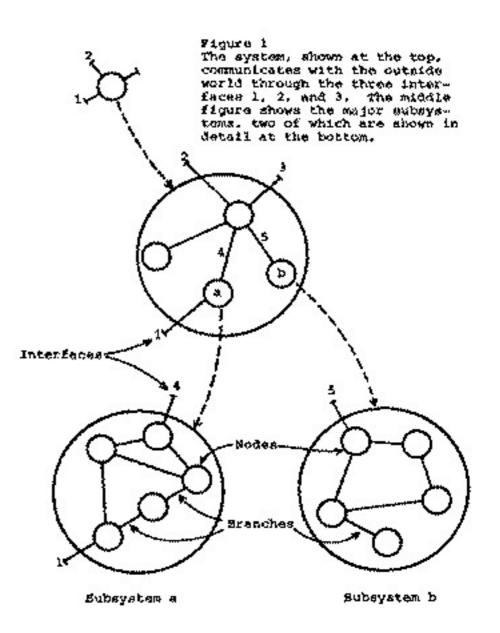
MapReduce is a programming model for processing large data sets, and the name of an implementation of the model by Google. MapReduce is typically used to do distributed computing on clusters of computers.^[1]





The Social Shapes Design

Any organization that designs a system will inevitably produce a design whose structure is a copy of the organization's communication structure.



You Can Design Away Errors



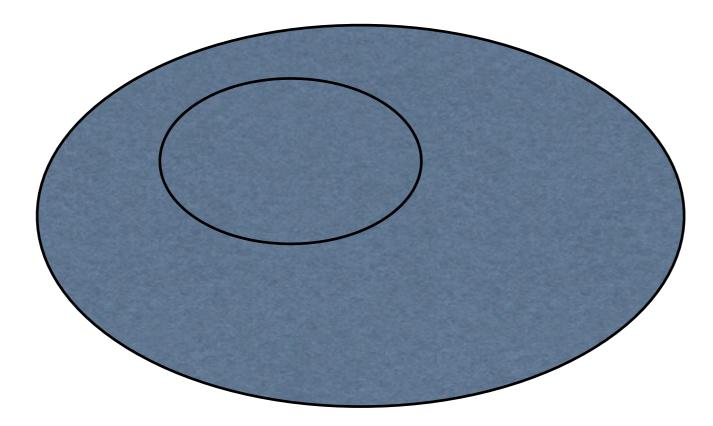
Logging is a Design Failure



Databases are a Design Tool



Globals Hide Design Information



Standards Dampen Design



Context is King

